THE PENDING CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified patent application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.   (Original) A method for measuring a characteristic of cigarette tipping paper used in the production of a cigarette, said method comprising:

measuring the characteristic at one or more specific locations along the cigarette tipping paper;

storing data related to the measurement in a database file; and

applying a sample code including said stored data associated with a specific location on said cigarette tipping paper at said specific location on said paper.

2.   (Original) The method according to claim 1, further including:

collecting and evaluating finished cigarettes having at least one of said sample codes on said cigarette tipping paper.

3.   (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the measured characteristic is permeability of said paper.

4.   (Original) The method according to claim 3, wherein said paper is partially unwound from a bobbin before measuring said permeability.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein said sample code is printed on said paper in the vicinity of said specific location.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5 wherein said paper is rewound on a bobbin after printing said sample code on said paper.

7. (Original) A method for measuring a value of permeability of tipping paper used in the production of a cigarette, comprising:

unwinding tipping paper from a bobbin of said tipping paper;

obtaining measurements of permeability at one or more specific locations along said tipping paper;

storing data related to said measurements in a database file;

applying a sample code including said stored data associated with a specific location on said tipping paper at each of said one or more specific locations along said paper;

rewinding said paper to form a bobbin of tipping paper having said one or more locations with an applied sample code; and

using said tipping paper to produce cigarettes.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, further including:

retrieving and evaluating individual cigarettes having said tipping paper with an applied sample code in correlation to said stored data associated with the specific locations on said individual cigarettes.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically inspecting a web of material at specific locations on said web of material, comprising:

unwinding said web of material from a first spindle of said material, and rewinding said web of material on a second spindle of said material,

measuring a characteristic of said web of material at a location on said web between said first spindle and said second spindle, and

printing a sample code selected from the group consisting of letters, numbers, spaced bars, and other identifying indicia and having information corresponding to said measured characteristic at the location where said measurement took place.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 9, further including:

determining test parameters before said measuring of a characteristic of said web of material;

preparing a database file including information corresponding to said test parameters; and

incorporating said information corresponding to said test parameters on said sample code in addition to said information corresponding to said measured characteristic.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 9,

wherein said web of material is initially unwound from said first spindle and rewound on said second spindle by a predetermined amount until said location on said web is adjacent a device for measuring said characteristic,

stopping said initial unwinding and rewinding process and measuring said characteristic at said location while the web is stationary, and

advancing said web of material to a position where said location on said web is printed with said sample code.

12. (Original)   The method according to claim 9, wherein said advancing of said web is performed at a slower rate of speed than said initial unwinding and rewinding.

13. (Currently Amended)   A system for automatically inspecting a web of material at specific locations on said web of material during a manufacturing process, comprising:

an unwind spindle containing said web of material,

a series of rollers over which said web of material is guided,

a rewind spindle onto which said web of material is rewound,

a testing device for measuring a characteristic of said web of material at a location on said web of material between said unwind spindle and said rewind spindle, and

a printing device that is adapted to print a sample code <u>selected from the group consisting of letters, numbers, spaced bars, and other identifying indicia and</u> including information corresponding to a measured characteristic of a location on said web, said printing device being positioned to print said sample code on said web at said location on said web.

14. (Original)   The system according to claim 13, wherein said testing device measures permeability of said web of material.

15. (Original)   The system according to claim 13, wherein said testing device measures a dimension of said web of material.

16. (Original)   The system according to claim 13, wherein said testing device visually inspects said web of material for out of specification conditions.

17. (Original) A system for automatically inspecting a web of cigarette tipping paper used in the production of cigarettes at specific locations on said web of cigarette tipping paper during a manufacturing process, comprising:

means for measuring a feature of said web of cigarette tipping paper at specific locations on said web of cigarette tipping paper;

means for storing data related to said measured feature in a database file;

means for applying indicia including said stored data associated with a specific location on said web of cigarette tipping paper at said specific location on said web; and

means for collecting and evaluating a finished cigarette having said indicia on said web.